

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /132 W  
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R 230934Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2992

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPA \*

AMCONSUL ARACHI \*AMCONWUL LAHORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, PK, CH

SUBJ: VISIT OF CHINESE MILITARY DELEGATION

REF: ISLAMABAD 0176

SUMMARY: HIGH-LEVEL CHINESE MILITARY DELEGATION CONCLUDED TWELVE-DAY VISIT TO PAKISTAN JANUARY 17. DELEGATION RECEIVED UNUSUALLY LAVISH RECEPTION FROM GOP CIVIL AND MILITARY OFFICIALS. PUBLIC REMARKS BY BOTH SIDES LARGELY PREDICTABLE BOILERPLATE. NOT KNOWN WHETHER OR NOT PAKS WERE ABLE TO EXTRACT ANY NEW MILITARY COMMITMENTS FROM CHINESE VISITORS BUT ISLAMABAD DIPLOMATS TEND TO DOUBT IT. ASIDE FROM QUESTION OF MILITARY HARDWARE, VISIT WAS USEFUL TO BHUTTO POLITICALLY BY SERVING TO underscore CONTINUATION OF STRONG SINO-PAKISTAN TIES. END SUMMARY.

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1. HIGH-LEVEL SIX-MAN VISITING CHINESE "GOODWILL"

MILITARY DELEGATION LEFT PAKISTAN JANUARY 17 AT CONCLUSION OF TWELVE-DAY STAY. DELEGATION WAS LED BY DEPUTY CHIEF OF PLA GENERAL STAFF CHANG TSIA-CHIEN AND INCLUDED ACTING HEAD OF AIR FORCE, HERETOFORE UNIDENTIFIED DEPUTY COMMANDER NAVY, AND ACTING DIRECTORS OF ARMAMENTS AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS BUREAU, DEFENSE MINISTRY. GROUP RECEIVED WARM WELCOME DURING VISIT, WHICH WAS BILLED AS RECIPROCATING PAKISTAN ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL TIKKA KHAN'S JANUARY 1973 VISIT TO CHINA.

2. IN ADDITION TO CAPITAL AREA, GROUP VISITED PESHAWAR (LOCATION OF PAF HEADQUARTERS), KARACHI, LAHORE, ARMOR AND FIGHTER BASES IN PUNJAB PROVINCE, PAKISTAN ORDNANCE FACTORY, HEAVY MECHANICAL COMPLEX CONSTRUCTED WITH CHINESE ASSISTANCE AND TWO MAJOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECTS. AT ALL STOPS, DELEGATION WAS RECEIVED AND ENTER-TAINED BY RANKING GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY OFFICIALS.

3. GOP OFFICIALS WERE LAVISH IN PRAISE OF CHINESE VISITORS, PAKISTAN-SINO RELATIONS IN GENERAL AND CHINESE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO PAKISTAN. CHINESE VISITORS WERE EQUALLY GENEROUS IN THEIR PRAISE OF PAKISTAN.

4. AT BANQUET HOSTED BY BHUTTO IN KARACHI JANUARY 14, PRIME MINISTER MADE PREDICTABLE REMARKS BUT SEEMINGLY WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO OBSERVE THAT "THIS IS A VISIT OF GOODWILL AND CARRIES NO REPEAT NO MOTIVES". HE CONTINUED "LET EVERYBODY KNOW THAT OUR MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP WILL ALWAYS BE ON THE SIDE OF PEACE AND WILL BE OPPOSED TO ANY FORM OF INTERVENTION IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES". BHUTTO SAID THAT DEVELOPMENTS SUCH AS MIDDLE EAST WAR AND ENERGY CRISIS CALLED "FOR EVER INCREASING CONTACTS AND DIALOGUE BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND CHINA". REPLYING TO BHUTTO'S TOAST, CHANG REPEATED USUAL FORMULATIONS ABOUT "SUPPORT TO PEOPLE OF PAKISTAN AND THEIR JUST CAUSE AGAINST FOREIGN AGGRESSION AND INTERVENTION" AND COMMON STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, EXPANSIONISM AND HEGEMONISM". CHANG SINGLED OUT FOR SPECIAL PRAISE PAKISTAN'S CONSISTENT SUPPORT FOR RESTORATION OF CHINA'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"LEGITIMATE RIGHTS IN THE UN".

5. IN REMARKS ON DEPARTURE JANUARY 17, CHANGE IN ADDITION TO REPEATING STANDARD LINE AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND EXPANSIONISM PRAISED GOP EFFORTS TO "NORMALIZE" SITUATION IN SOUTH ASIA. HE PLEDGED CONTINUING PRC SUPPORT TO "THE KASHMIRI PEOPLE IN THEIR JUST STRUGGLE AND WINNING THE RIGHTS OF NATIONAL SELF-DETERMINATION". (THIS WAS ONLY EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO KASHMIR DISPUTE AND IS

USUAL CHINESE LANGUAGE ON THIS SUBJECT.)

6. ALTHOUGH GOP TRADITIONALLY PULLS OUT ALL STOPS FOR IMPORTANT VISITORS (FOR EXAMPLE FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER'S BRIEF NOVEMBER VISIT), CHINESE MILITARY DELEGATION WAS ACCORDED PARTICULARLY LAVISH RECEPTION. PRESS, RADIO AND TELEVISION COVERAGE WAS EXTENSIVE AND UNIFORMLY LAUDATORY. TV LATE SHOW VIEWS WERE EVEN TREATED TO COMPLETE FILM OF PEKING OPERA "TAKING TIGER MOUNTAIN BY STRATEGY" IN PLACE OF USUAL AMERICAN POTBOILER. (MINOR GAFFE WAS COMMITTED BY PAKISTAN TELEVISION WHEN IT SHOWED FILM OF TAIWANESE OPERA COMPANY AS WELL AS FILM CLIP OF DISCREDITED FORMER PRESIDENT YAHYA KHAN. TWO PRODUCERS WERE REPORTEDLY SACKED AS RESULT.)

7. SEMI-OFFICIAL GOP NEWSPAPER PAKISTAN TIMES IN JANUARY 9 EDITORIAL COMMENT ON VISIT SAID IT SHOULD REASSURE THOSE IN PAKISTAN WHO HAVE BEEN CALLING FOR CLOSE DEFENSE LIAISON WITH PRC THAT A DEGREE OF SUCH LIAISON ALREADY EXISTS. NEWSPAPER OBSERVED THAT "POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS ARE NOT ALWAYS SUFFICIENT TO DETER FOREIGN AGGRESSION; A STRONG DEFENSE CAPABILITY IS ALWAYS VITAL". THIS WAS AS FAR AS PRESS OR GOP LEADERS WENT PUBLICLY TO HINT THAT VISIT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN SOLELY PROTOCOLAIRE. PAKISTAN TIMES OBLIQUELY REFERRED TO SOVIET UNION BY COMMENTING THAT PAKISTAN HAD RISKED ANGER OF PEKING'S ENEMIES RATHER THAN DEVIATE FROM ITS SUPPORT FOR THE PRC. IN CONCLUSION, PAPER SAID THAT IF VISIT LED TO GREATER UNDERSTANDING ABOUT PAKISTAN'S DEFENSE PROBLEMS, IT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARD PEACE IN REGION AND TOWARD SATISFYING POPULAR EXPECTATIONS.

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /132 W  
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R 230934Z JAN 74  
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2993  
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
USLO PEKING  
CINCPAC  
AMCONSUL KARACHI  
AMCONSUL LAHORE

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8. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH DETAILED INFO ON SINO-PAK MILITARY TIES IS EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN, CONSENSUS AMONG ISLAMABAD DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY IS TO DOUBT THAT ANY MAJOR MILITARY COMMITMENTS IN ADDITION TO ALREADY EXTENSIVE EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS WERE ENTERED INTO DURING COURSE OF THIS VISIT. WE HAVE SOME INDICATION THAT VISIT WAS ESSENTIALLY A "LOOK AND LEARN" OBSERVATION TOUR. FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE COMMENTED TO EMBOFF "THE CHINESE JUST DON'T HAVE ANYTHING THE PAKS REALLY WANT". THIS IS OVERSIMPLIFICATION, BUT CHINESE OF COURSE NOT HAVE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF AIRCRAFT AND OTHER ITEMS OF MILITARY HARDWARE PAKS ARE SEEKING TO MODERNIZE THEIR ARMED FORCES. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE HAVE NO INFO RE AFP ARTICLE THAT CHINESE AGREED TO HELP PAKISTAN ACHIEVE SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE  
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CAPABILITY, ALTHOUGH PAKS OBVIOUSLY DESIRE SUCH CAPABILITY (ALREADY ENJOYED BY THEIR AFGHAN AND INDIAN NEIGHBORS).

9. HOWEVER, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER PAKS OBTAINED ANY NEW MILITARY HARDWARE FROM CHINESE, THIS FIRST VISIT BY HIGH-RANKING CHINESE GROUP DURING BHUTTO REGIME SERVED USEFUL POLITICAL PURPOSE FOR BHUTTO GOVERNMENT BY UNDERSCORING CONTINUED PAK-CHINESE TIE AND TRADITIONAL GOP AND POPULAR VIEW OF PRC AS PAKISTAN'S MOST RELIABLE FRIEND AND ALLY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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